

Integral Faith

"Homily helps and liturgy resources highlighting care for our common home."



Homily Resources and Petitions for the First Sunday of Advent Cycle C (2 December 2018)

Homily Helps

† Scripture passages to note:

Jeremiah 33:15-16: Do what is right and just in the land.... Judah shall be safe and Jerusalem shall dwell secure.

Psalms 25:4 Your ways, O Lord, make known to me; teach me your paths.

Luke 21:25-26, 28, 36: There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on earth nations will be in dismay, perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the world.... When these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand.... Be vigilant ... pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations.

† Passages from *Laudato Si'* to note:

Chapter One of *Laudato Si'* (#17-62) examines what is happening to Our Common Home, taking stock of what many scientists report. There Pope Francis calls our attention to:

- Pollution
- Climate change
- Water depletion
- Biodiversity loss
- Impact on the quality of human life
- Breakdown of bonds in society
- Global inequality
- Weak responses
- Lack of consensus

"Sister, Mother Earth ... cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her." (#2)

"Our goal is ... to dare to turn what is happening to the world into our own personal suffering and thus to discover what each of us can do about it." (#19)

"Hope would have us recognize that there is always a way out, that we can always redirect our steps, that we can always do something to solve our problems. Still, we can see signs that things are now reaching a breaking point...." (#61)

† **Comment for the day:**

Advent is about **W**aking up, **W**aiting and **W**atching for the Coming of the Lord into our world. We are to play an active role in enabling his coming. Our Waiting is to be Active as we watch.

The realities that Pope Francis calls to our attention in *Laudato Si'* are ones that we cannot sweep under the rug. At the same time, while *Laudato Si'* draws on science, it also draws on the Gospel. The Gospel is the source of our hope as Christians. And while the Advent season directs our attention to reading the signs of the times, troubling as some may be, we read them in light of this Gospel hope. For indeed, in Advent we await the God who does not abandon creation, but who comes to abide with us.

† **Related Prayers of the Faithful**

Option 1: As we begin this Advent season, may we join Pope Francis and embrace all people who are in need wherever they are in the world. Let us pray to the Lord

Option 2: That the Holy Spirit will guide decision makers in all nations to address climate change for the good of the whole world, let us pray to the Lord

† **Sample Bulletin Notice**

CLIMATE CHANGE IS REAL: Pope Francis wrote his *Laudato Si'* encyclical because he sees climate change not as an isolated issue, but as a crucial link among many interconnected issues: poverty, migration, trafficking, food and water shortages, species extinction, and others. He argues that “Relations between states must be respectful of each other’s sovereignty, but must also lay down mutually agreed means of averting regional disasters which would eventually affect everyone.” (#173) He is especially concerned for the poor and vulnerable of our human family. Let us pray that all nations can work together for the good of Our Common Home.

Further Resources

Feedback: Info@CatholicClimateCovenant.org

Webpage: www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/resource/english-homily-help

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